



Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR
AND CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Robert L. Davis
Chief of Police

SUBJECT: Analysis of Domestic Violence and
Child Abuse Crimes and Expansion
of Domestic Violence Awareness
and Prevention Program

DATE: May 24, 2006

Approved _____ /s/ _____ Date 05/24/06

This memorandum is prepared in response to the Mayor's March 2006 Budget Message that directs the Manager to complete an analysis of crimes over the last few years related to domestic violence and child abuse and expansion of the Domestic Violence Awareness and Prevention Program.

As shown in the following tables, reported domestic violence cases in San José declined by 199 cases or 6% during calendar years 2003 through 2005. Domestic violence cases involving weapons showed a more pronounced decline of 31% with 418 weapons involved cases in 2005 compared to 607 cases in 2003. Statewide from 2002 to 2004, the number of reported cases declined by 5% (2005 numbers are unavailable). The reduction of domestic violence in San José from 2003 to 2005 underscores the value of the prevention and education programs initiated and maintained by the Family Violence Unit and the Domestic Violence Coordinator.

SAN JOSÉ DOMESTIC VIOLENCE	2003	2004	2005
Total Reports Received	3,492	3,383	3,293
TOTAL <u>without</u> WEAPONS	2,885	2,827	2,875
TOTAL <u>with</u> WEAPONS	607	556	418
Firearms	24	17	18
Knife/Cutting	89	109	72
Other Weapons	339	245	132
*Hands/Fists/Feet	155	185	196

CALIFORNIA DOMESTIC VIOLENCE	2002	2003	2004
Total Reports Received	196,569	194,288	186,439
TOTAL without WEAPONS	76,710	87,557	88,703
TOTAL with WEAPONS	119,859	106,731	97,736
Firearms	1,528	1,380	1,193
Knife/Cutting	4,091	4,027	4,028
Other Weapons	15,295	14,194	13,054
*Hands/Fists/Feet	98,945	87,130	79,461

Total Domestic Violence Reports Received City vs. State	2002 to 2003		2003 to 2004	
	SJPD	STATE	SJPD	STATE
TOTAL CALLS RECEIVED	-9%	-1%	-3%	-4%
TOTAL without WEAPONS	4%	14%	-2%	1%
TOTAL with WEAPONS	-44%	-11%	-8%	-8%
Firearms	-41%	-10%	-29%	-14%
Knife/Cutting	-6%	-2%	22%	0%
Other Weapons	-17%	-7%	-28%	-8%
*Hands/Fists/Feet	-71%	-12%	19%	-9%

Reported child abuse cases in San José have declined by 434 cases or 25% over two years from 1,706 cases in calendar year 2003 to 1,272 cases in 2005. Statewide averages for reported child abuse incidences were not available.

REPORTED CHILD ABUSE INCIDENCES TO SJPD		
2003	2004	2005
1,706	1,452	1,272

In order to maintain these trends, Police Department Family Violence Unit and the City Manager’s Office Domestic Violence Coordinator will continue to focus on domestic violence issues within the community. The Family Violence Unit will continue to:

- Investigate, prosecute and assist victims of crimes related to domestic violence, child abuse/neglect and elder abuse and neglect;
- Have a “one stop shop” available at a safe location to assist victims of family violence;

May 24, 2006

Subject: Analysis of Domestic Violence and Child Abuse Crimes

Page 3

- Collaborate with the Santa Clara County District Attorney's Office, Santa Clara County Probation Department, State Parole, Next Door Community Solutions and the Department of Family and Children's Services to prevent family violence crimes;
- Train and educate patrol officers, dispatchers, investigators and special operations officers with handling domestic violence calls for service and offering outside assistance to crime victims, and
- Work with the Santa Clara County Domestic Violence Council, the City's Family/Domestic Violence Advisory Board, Family to Family Advisory Board, Child Abuse Council and the Santa Clara County Greenbook Project to raise awareness and educate the public to domestic and family violence issues.

The Police Department will continue to work with the City Manager's Office to plan and implement activities and efforts to strengthen the City's response to domestic violence. The Domestic Violence Coordinator will further the efforts against domestic violence through the following strategies:

- The City's Family/Domestic Violence Advisory Board will expand its effort to sponsor and host public awareness and education activities, such as the Annual Walk to End Domestic Violence, a new citywide multi-lingual banner campaign, distributing information brochures and newspaper ads, and hosting community education forums.
- Activities that will be implemented in the foreseeable future include the Violence Against Women Roundtable in May 2006 and a citywide public awareness and education campaign in October 2006. In addition, the City Manager's Office is working to develop an RFP to support community based programs and services related to violence against women and girls; this funding will be released in fiscal year 2006-2007.
- The City will also maintain its collaborative efforts with the Santa Clara County Superior Courts, the Santa Clara County Domestic Violence Council and the Child Abuse Council, and the Greenbook Project of Santa Clara County to co-sponsor other community-wide domestic violence prevention and education activities such as the Annual Child Abuse Symposium and the Annual Domestic Violence Conference.

In order to accomplish these activities, the reallocation of City Manager's Office administrative functions and special projects from the current Domestic Violence Coordinator would allow for additional capacity to implement these strategies and expand the Domestic Violence Awareness and Prevention Program. The reallocation of City Manager's Office administrative and special project support from the current Domestic Violence Coordinator will be completed October 1, 2006, contingent upon the filling of an existing Senior Executive Analyst vacancy in the office.

In addition, an evaluation of the current organizational structure to optimize domestic violence service delivery and explore efficiencies will occur. At this time, the organization has two functions serving domestic violence needs. This analysis will explore whether efficiencies

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

May 24, 2006

Subject: Analysis of Domestic Violence and Child Abuse Crimes

Page 4

would be realized by merging the domestic violence efforts conducted in the City Manager's Office with the Police Department. The results of the evaluation and decisions made by the City Manager of these leveraging possibilities will be reported to the City Council in October 2006 through an informational memo.

/s/

ROBERT L. DAVIS

Chief of Police